
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO CONDUCT A STUDY REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY AND COST OF CONSTRUCTING A SMALL, RURAL LANDING SITE OR AIRSTRIP FOR USE BY THE NATIONAL GUARD AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS IN SOUTH PUNA AND EVALUATE THE POSSIBILITY OF USING BASALT REBAR OR LUNAR BASALTIC CEMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION.

1 WHEREAS, Puna, on the Island of Hawaii, is an incredibly
2 large district that is approximately the same size as the Island
3 of Oahu; and
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5 WHEREAS, Puna has the fastest growing population in the
6 State; and
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8 WHEREAS, Puna is located in an active lava zone, which has
9 destroyed homes and negatively impacted the community in the
10 past; and
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12 WHEREAS, Puna is located near the Hawaii Volcanoes National
13 Park and is a popular tourist attraction and destination for
14 ecotourism and personal development opportunities; and
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16 WHEREAS, many people in Puna have been and will be cut off
17 from supplies and emergency services as a result of the lava
18 currently threatening to cross Highway 130; and
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20 WHEREAS, the closest commercial airport to Puna is Hilo
21 Airport, a roundtrip that takes approximately six to eight hours
22 to complete if lava crosses the highway; and
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24 WHEREAS, there is an abundance of basalt on the Island of
25 Hawaii, and basalt rebar weighs twenty-five percent less than
26 and is two hundred percent stronger than steel rebar; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Pacific International Space Center for
2 Exploration Systems is working on a basalt rebar initiative,
3 including the construction of a basalt rebar plant, on the
4 Island of Hawaii; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the
8 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii Emergency
9 Management Agency is requested to conduct a study regarding the
10 feasibility and cost of constructing a small, rural landing site
11 or airstrip for use by the National Guard and emergency
12 responders in south Puna and evaluate the possibility of using
13 basalt rebar or lunar basaltic cement in the construction; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Emergency Management
16 Agency report its findings and recommendations, including any
17 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
18 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Adjutant
22 General, Director of Transportation, Director of the Office of
23 Aerospace Development, Mayor of the County of Hawaii, and
24 Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Pacific
25 International Space Center for Exploration Systems.
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